

THE RCC WEEKLY

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STATE HOUSE HEARING

On January 10, Dr. Brenda Mercomes, Vice-President, Academic Affairs, was invited to give testimony at the State House in support of a bill that will aid community college students in completing their studies without money being their biggest obstacle. The bill, sponsored by Representative Kay Kahn, is entitled "Pathways to Family Success."



FAREWELL, FREDDY

Freddy Gonzales, Director of Corporate and Community Education, decided to retire. He and his wife Val have left the frigid Massachusetts climate and relocated to Puerto Rico.

Since 2007, Freddy's innovative ideas have brought new energy to many of our programs.

We will miss him, but we wish him well. Maybe he'll save us a seat on that deck overlooking the ocean.



DISCOVER YOUR CAREER IN THE SCIENCES

On November 30, 2012, the RCC Science Department hosted the event "Discover Your Career in the Sciences" for approximately 100 high school juniors/seniors majoring in the Sciences. Attending schools were Brighton High School, Community Academy of Health and Sciences, Madison Park Vocational Technical, and Cambridge Rindge School of Technical Arts.

Prior to participating in the interactive laboratory demonstrations presented by Professors Rodriquez, Stieglitz, Gaskin, Laird and Olsen, students and teachers listened to a vibrant panel discussion focused on careers in the sciences from a personal perspective. The resonating message to the students was the importance of an education and to be passionate in the field they choose. The panel consisted of:

Roxbury Community College Student and Alumni:

- Emmanuel Limage (student), Lab Animal Care Technician/Research Assistant
- Girma Endale (alumni), Visiting Research Scientist at MIT
- Sauveur Jeanty (alumni), Research Assistant – Tissue Culture Technician/Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering at Harvard University

Industry: James Phillips, Chemist, Waters Corporation

Roxbury Community College Science Faculty: Professor Kristin Laird and Professor Alfred Gaskin

Related Partners:

- Meghna Marjadi, MA Promise Fellow and High School Program Coordinator, Science Club for Girls
- Dean Charles Diggs, Roxbury Community College Enrollment/Dual Enrollment
- Ellen Ronayne, Senior Education Advisor and Outreach Coordinator, American Student Assistance (formerly TERI)

During lunch, students were able to visit informational tables to gather resources and to complete their "Discover Your Career in the Sciences Passport" that would enable them to enter the raffles. Upon their departure for the day, teachers and guidance from each school were presented an RCC pennant.

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IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sorrow that we mark the passing of John Thomas, our former Director of Athletics from 1995-2005.

Many of you will remember John's amazing years as an Olympian. Some memorable statistics from his career:

- He became the first to clear 7 feet indoors;
- He was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame;
- He competed in two Olympic games and won two medals, the bronze in Rome, 1960; and the silver in Tokyo in 1964.
- He was an incredible athlete.



Services were held for Mr. Thomas on January 22nd at Temple Adventist Church in Brockton.

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This event was facilitated by Jennie Thrash, Career and Technical Education Coordinator in partnership with the Boston Public Schools Career and Technical Education Department, Cambridge

Public Schools Career and Technical Education Department, Roxbury Community College Admissions/ Dual Enrollment Department, Roxbury Community College Science Department, Roxbury Community College Marketing Department and Roxbury Community College Phi

Theta Kappa Honor Society. Funding was provided through the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Grant.

For more information, please contact Jennie Thrash at (617) 933 – 7434 or jthrash@rcc.mass.edu.



Items for "The Weekly"

If you have something of interest that you would like to share with the college community, please submit it (by Wednesday afternoon) to Jacqueline Lynch at jlynch1@rcc.mass.edu